

Mr. James Saric Remedial Project Manager USEPA Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard Mail Code: SR-6J Chicago, IL 60605-3507

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Subject:

Selected Peer Review Panel for Ecological Risk Studies Allied Paper, Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Saric:

This letter confirms the selection of panelists for the Kalamazoo River Ecological Risk Assessment Peer Review according to a process mutually acceptable by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Kalamazoo River Study Group (KRSG). This process is described in the Draft Scope of Work for the Peer Review. The peer review panelists have been contacted and reviewed for potential conflicts of interest by Dr. Ken Dickson, the Peer Review Manager. The collective expertise of the Panel meets the criteria established by both the USEPA and the KRSG; specifically, the Panel members provide appropriate expertise in the areas of ecological risk assessments and risk management issues at large sites; the assessment of potential impacts to avian receptors and communities; and the application of statistical methods to ecological risk assessment. The following individuals have agreed, through communication with Dr. Ken Dickson, to serve on the Panel.

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Panelist	Affiliation	Primary Expertise
Larry Barnthouse, PhD	LWB Environmental Services, Inc.	Ecological Risk Management at Large Sites
Mark Harwell, PhD	Harwell Gentile & Associates, LLC	
Charlie Menzie, PhD	Exponent	
Anne Fairbrother, PhD	Parametrix/Oregon State University	Evaluation of Avian Communities
Keith Grasman, PhD	Calvin College, MI	
Lyman McDonald, PhD	WEST, Inc.	Statistics
William Warren-Hicks	EcoStat, Inc.	

Date:

April 1, 2008

Contact:

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Mr. James Saric
April 1, 2008

A brief summary of the expertise and experience for each Panel member is provided in Attachment 1 to this letter.

If USEPA is in agreement with KRSG that the Peer Review Panel has been selected through an appropriate process, I respectfully request that USEPA provide a letter confirming such agreement.

Sincerely,

**ARCADIS** 

Michael J. Erickson, P.E. Associate Vice President

Attachment

Copies:

James Chapman, PhD, USEPA
Paul Bucholtz, MDEQ
Bonnie Barnett, Esq., Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Steven Cook, Esq., Millennium Holdings, LLC
J. Michael Davis, Esq., Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Mellonie Fleming, Esq., Georgia-Pacific Corporation
David Guier, Millennium Holdings, LLC
L. Chase Fortenberry, P.G., Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Mark Brown, PhD, Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Kenneth Jenkins, PhD ARCADIS
Nancy Bonnevie, ARCADIS

#### Attachment 1

Summaries of Kalamazoo River Ecological Risk Assessment Peer Review Panel Members

Larry Barnthouse is the President and Principal Scientist of LWB Environmental Services, Inc. Dr. Barnthouse has authored or co-authored several books and more than 90 publications relating to ecological risk assessment. His consulting activities include Superfund ecological risk assessments, natural resource damage assessments, risk-based environmental restoration planning, 316(b) demonstrations for nuclear and non-nuclear power plants, and a variety of other projects involving close interactions with regulatory and resource management agencies. As a senior research staff member in Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Environmental Sciences Division, Dr. Barnthouse was involved in dozens of environmental research and assessment projects involving development of new methods for predicting and measuring the environmental risks of energy technologies. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Hazard/Risk Assessment Editor of the journal Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, and Founding Editorial Board Member of the new journal Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management.

Mark Harwell is an ecosystems ecologist with expertise in ecological risk assessments and ecosystem management. He was a leader in the development of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) ecological risk assessment framework, and has led several large ecological risk assessments, including on Tampa Bay, Apalachicola Bay, Biscayne Bay, the Coeur d'Alene River basin, and the Bay of Fundy. He served for more than ten years as a member of the USEPA Science Advisory Board (SAB), including two terms as Chair of the Ecological Processes and Effects Committee and member of the SAB Executive Committee. He chaired the ecological risk committee of the USEPA Unfinished Business Project, and was a member of the USEPA SAB Reducing Risk project. He led the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) 5-year international study to assess the global environmental consequences of nuclear war (ENUWAR), emphasizing the ecological effects of climate change. He directed the PANEARTH Project, a series of national-level case studies of the ecological effects of climate change on Venezuela, India, Japan, China, and Sub-Saharan Africa. He was a member of the US Global Change Research Program's National Assessment working group on coastal resources effects, and he continues to serve as an Expert Reviewer for the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Dr. Harwell led a series of interdisciplinary studies on human interactions with the South Florida environment, including field, mesocosm, and modeling studies in Biscayne Bay and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. He served on the National Academy of Sciences panel on ecological risks in the US and Poland, and was a member of the NAS panel on risk communications. He was the NOAA Distinguished Professor of Environmental Sciences, leading interdisciplinary studies on National Estuarine Research Reserves, developing conceptual models of coupled human-environment systems, and conducting ecological risk assessments. Dr. Harwell was a member of the National Academy of Sciences Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology, and was elected a Fellow of AAAS.

**Charlie Menzie** is a Principal Scientist and Director of EcoSciences at Exponent. Dr. Menzie received a PhD in Biology from City University of New York (1978). He has provided support to the National Estuaries Program (USEPA/Coastal Zone Management), Risk Assessment Forum (USEPA), Office of Water (USEPA), Minerals Management Service, Office of Technology Assessment (U.S. Congress), and

NOAA. Dr. Menzie has worked at more than 100 sites and has been involved in approximately a dozen NRDA-related cases. He is recognized as one of the leaders in the field of risk assessment and was awarded the Risk Practitioner Award by the Society for Risk Analysis. He has served on the Council of SRA and the Board of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC). Dr. Menzie has led numerous peer reviews for industry and for government. He has taken the lead in developing guidance documents for industry and government and has focused on methods that are workable and acceptable to a broad range of parties. Dr. Menzie has conducted peer reviews of ecological risk assessments for the USEPA's Risk Assessment Forum and was responsible for coordinating peer reviews of case studies prepared by experts in various areas of ecological risk assessment.

Anne Fairbrother is a Senior Scientist at Parametrix and a Courtesy Faculty Member at Oregon State University. She has extensive experience in conducting ecological risk assessments of terrestrial and wetland systems and in wildlife toxicology, particularly in developing methods for measuring immune function, endocrine disruption, and the interaction of multiple stressors. She has proposed approaches for probabilistic and population level risk assessments for avian studies, and is recognized internationally as a leader in ecological risk assessments of terrestrial and wetland systems, particularly for wide-area (i.e., large spatial extent) sites. She contributed to the development of USEPA's Framework for Ecological Risk Assessment and has conducted risk assessments at many contaminated sites worldwide.

Keith Grasman is a professor of Biology at Calvin College. Dr. Grasman has a PhD in wildlife sciences from Virginia Tech University and previously taught at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. His research focuses on island-based bird colonies in the Great Lakes, specifically the immunological effects of environmental contaminants on fish-eating birds of the Great Lakes and marine systems. Much of his recent work has been conducted on colonies of herring gulls, black-crowned night herons, and Caspian terns at sites in Muskegon and Saginaw Bay. The work continues 17 years of research done by Dr. Grasman on these species (and also double-crested cormorants) throughout the five Great Lakes. Over the years his research has been funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Canadian Wildlife Service, USEPA, Ohio Sea Grant Program, the Lake Erie Protection Fund, and the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

Lyman McDonald is a biometrician/statistician at WEST, Inc. with 35 years of experience in the application of statistical methods to design, conduct, and analyze environmental and laboratory studies. His specialties include sampling of biological populations, resource selection modeling, design of monitoring programs, calibration of biased sampling procedures, and multivariate analysis. Dr. McDonald has designed and managed both large and small environmental impact assessment and monitoring programs. He has experience in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems including marine environments. His experience has led to appointments to regional and national technical advisory and review committees, including the Technical Dispute Settlement Board for the Pacific Salmon Commission, Chair of the Program Advisory Panel for the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Act Collaborative Program, the Independent Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) for NOAA Fisheries and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, and the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) for the Northwest Power and

Conservation Council. Dr. McDonald is the author of more than 75 papers in the scientific literature and is joint author of the Second Edition of the book entitled *Resource Selection by Animals: Statistical Design and Analysis for Field Studies*. His responsibilities on projects have included design and analysis for: Natural Resource Damage Assessments, wildlife surveys, habitat selection by wildlife populations, laboratory and field studies, effects of pesticides on wildlife populations, and bioassay for fresh water and marine organisms. He has also organized and taught workshops on statistical procedures for practicing biologists.

**William J. Warren-Hicks** is a statistician with EcoStat, Inc. with over 20 years experience in the areas of environmental data analysis, uncertainty analysis, Bayesian inference and decision, probabilistic risk methods, survey design, and model validation studies. He teaches courses on statistics in risk assessment in the Continuing Education Program at Duke University. With over 100 publications in quantitative environmental sciences, he is frequently an invited speaker and author for numerous conferences, symposia and special publications. He is an active member of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), contributing to Pellston conferences on Uncertainty Analysis, Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing, and Multiple Stressors.